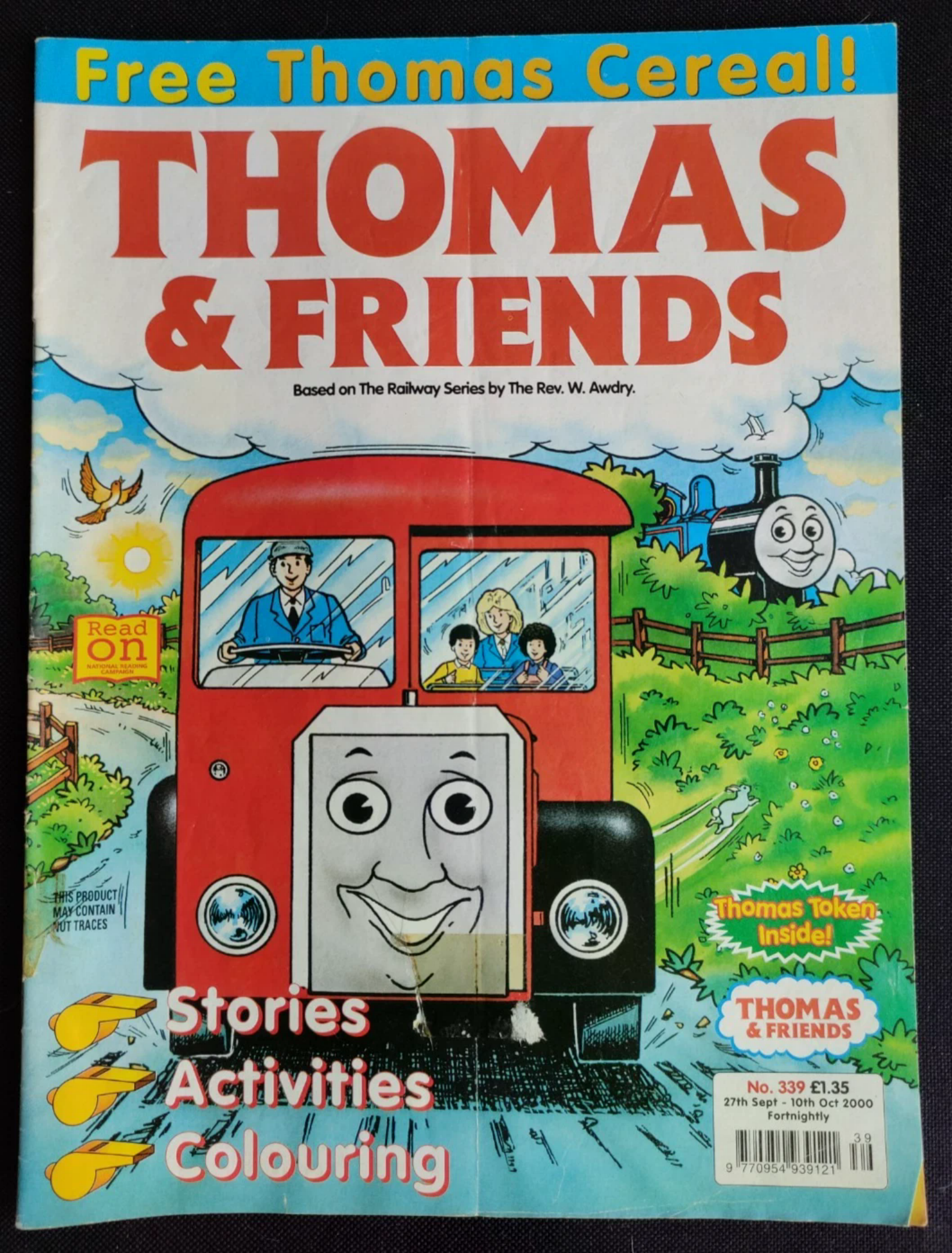
Free Thomas Cereal!

THOMAS & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.



No. 339 £1.35
27th Sept - 10th Oct 2000
Fortnightly
9 770954 939121 39

Really Useful Reading with...

THOMAS & FRIENDS

Welcome

... to the world of Thomas and his friends. Thomas is ready to take your child on a special journey of learning and discovery.

Stories and activities involving all your child's favourite Thomas characters encourage active reading and participation, stimulate the imagination and teach basic moral and social issues.

All of the elements in this magazine are based on the findings of academic research.

3. Danger Signs!
a story to read

8. Look and See
things to spot in a big picture

10. Time For Thomas
a rebus picture story

12. Colouring Fun!
a great picture of Gordon to colour

14. Story Puzzle
tell the story in the right order

16. Poster
a big picture to pull out and keep

18. Lots Of Leaves
a rhyming story

22. Leaves On The Line!
a picture story

24. Timber!
a bedtime story

28. Dot to Dot
join the dots to see the picture

30. Sodor Mail
your letters, drawings and photos

[illegible]

fun to read together

Danger Signs!

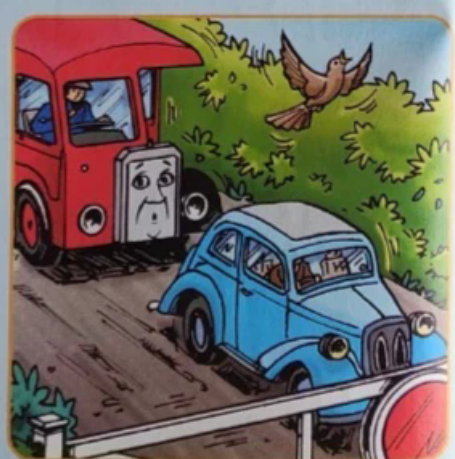
1. One morning, Bertie saw a danger sign. "Roadworks ahead!" said his driver. Bertie chuckled, "It looks like a man picking up an umbrella to me!"

2. "Well it IS raining, so look out, it's slippery!" cried his driver. But it was too late. Bertie braked hard and his front wheel went down a hole with a bump.

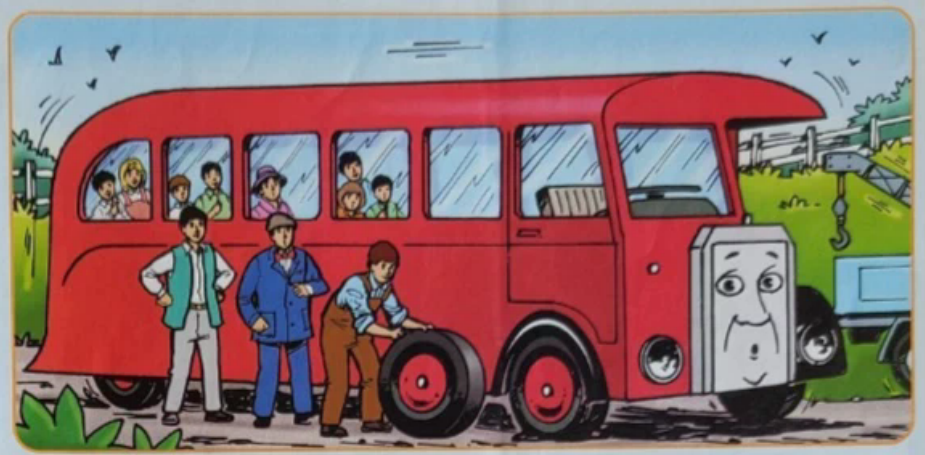
3. A big breakdown lorry hauled Bertie out. "We're lucky, there's no harm done, Bertie, just a little shake-up," said his driver, "but the did sign warn us!"

4. Bertie sped off but soon saw another danger sign. "Ramp ahead!" warned his driver, but it was too late. Bertie gave his passengers a good shake-up!

5. "What now?" Bertie groaned, spotting another sign. A cheeky passenger joked, "It means no wobbling!" "I've been wobbling since that ramp!" Bertie wailed.



6. Bertie wobbled along until he came to a well-known danger sign. "Level-crossing!" he said. The gates were down so his driver phoned for help while they waited.

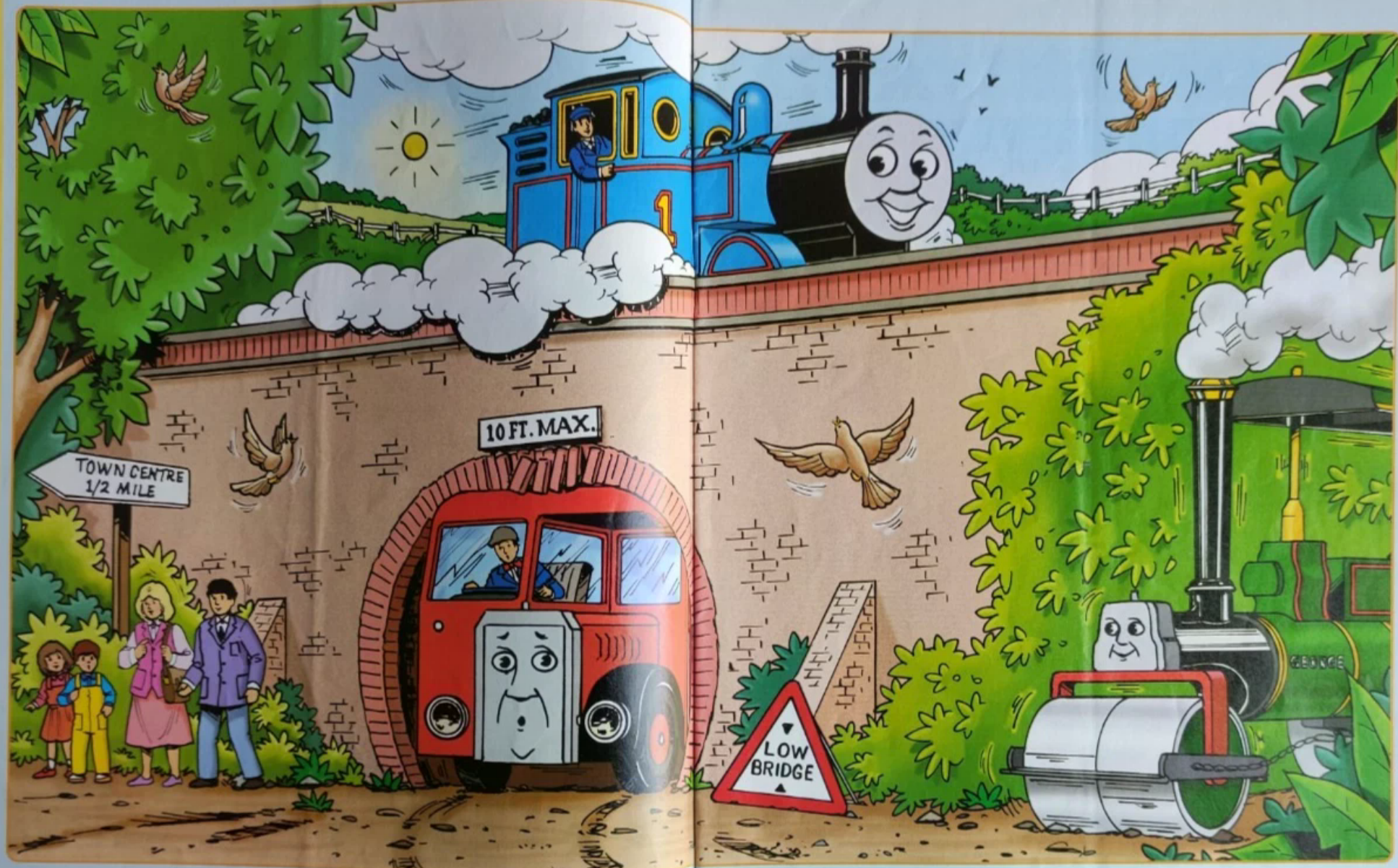


7. A mechanic soon arrived. "The tyre is damaged because you've hit something hard," he pointed out. Bertie was fed up, "I know, I didn't slow down in time!"

8. They put on a new tyre. The cheeky passenger watched and chirped, "I hope this sorts out the trouble, it's been like a fairground ride this morning!"

9. Bertie tried to catch up time. He sped through the countryside until he saw yet another danger sign. "Loose chippings!" announced his driver.

10. Suddenly someone came towards them and a stone flew up from the car's tyre and shattered Bertie's windscreen. "That wasn't our fault!" he cried.



11. Driver pushed out the broken glass from Bertie's windscreen. Then they came to a bridge. "Low Bridge!" called Bertie, but it's just high enough for me!"

12. Suddenly, they saw grumpy George. "Low Bridge!" George shouted. But Bertie carried on. Suddenly there was a nasty screech and Bertie was stuck!

13. George looked at Bertie. I told you so, I've just put a new surface down so the road is higher!" Then Thomas called out, "What a funny place for a bus stop!"

14. Bertie's driver phoned for help once more. "Yes, we're stuck under a bridge and we can't go anywhere!" Bertie grinned, "I think it's the safest place for us today!"

The End

Look and See!

1. How many magpies are there?
2. Point to the caterpillar.
3. Which engine can you see?
4. What colour is he?

The Fat Controller has spotted some magpies making a nest!
Look at the picture. What can you see?

answers: 1. two 2. on a leaf 3. Henry 4. green.

Rusty's rebus story

Time For Thomas

Trace over the words below. Then read the story, when you see a picture say the word!

The words made into pictures are...

Thomas

brick

cement

sand

house

water

station

shed

pot

driver

One day, Thomas delivered some bricks, some sacks of and lots of along his branch line. They were needed to help build a new . The builders thanked and were soon mixing the sand together with . The builders used the mix to stick the S in place. Meanwhile, had a nice, long drink of

in the siding before he set off again, Next, he had to take some timber to the woodyard. "We'll use it to make garden sheds," the manager explained.

saw a big, new nearby for sale. "How clever!" he thought. Later, had to wait at a signal by a pottery. The potter came to show him a big, clay she had just finished. She gave Thomas' another to take home. "It must be Really Useful to make something," sighed . "I wish I could!" His driver had an idea. He asked to go very fast. So the little engine steamed along. At the next , stood huffing and hissing while the checked his watch. Well done, ! Three minutes ahead of schedule," he smiled. "You've just made good time!"

The End

Colouring Fun

Use your crayons to colour this splendid picture of Henry!

Day out with Thomas

Don't miss the next Thomas day out nearest you!

September 30 – October 1	Avon Valley Railway (Bristol) Tel: (0117) 9325538
September 30 – October 3	National Railway Museum (York) Tel: (01904) 621261
October 6 – 8	Didcot Railway (Oxon) Tel: (01235) 817200
October 7 – 8	East Lancs Railway (Bury, Lancs) Tel: (0161) 7647790

Please note: Some of the above railway telephone numbers may be a talking timetable or may require you to leave a message.

Day Out with Thomas hotline tel: (0870) 2412532

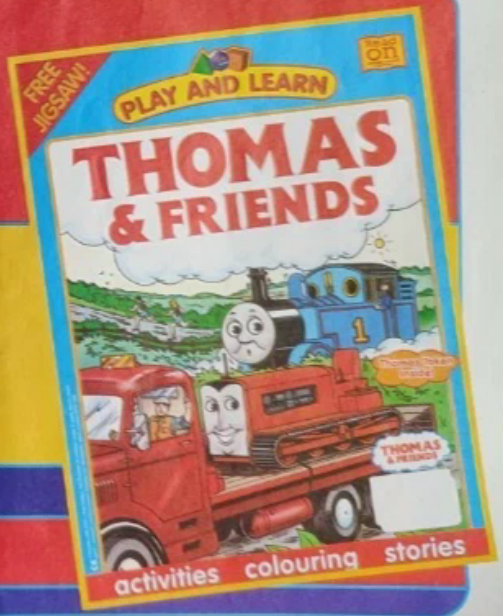
THOMAS & FRIENDS

Event licensed by The Britt Allcroft Company

Don't miss the new Play and Learn Thomas & Friends!

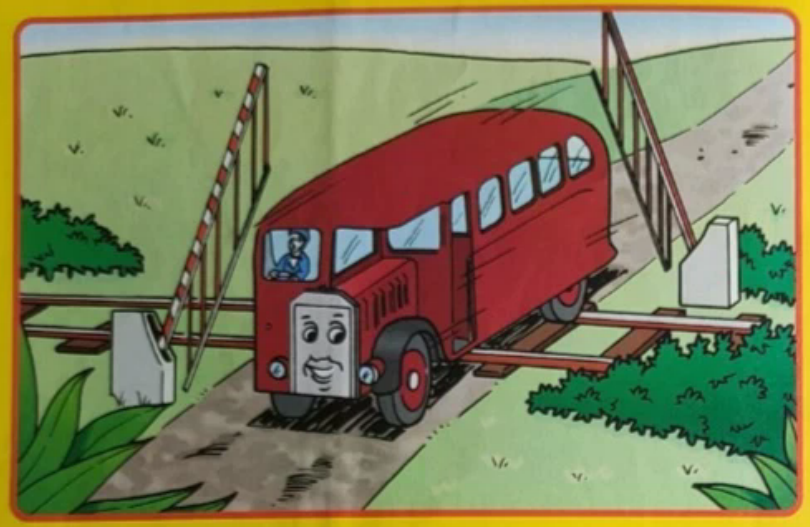
Packed full of activities, games and puzzles!

On sale every fortnight.

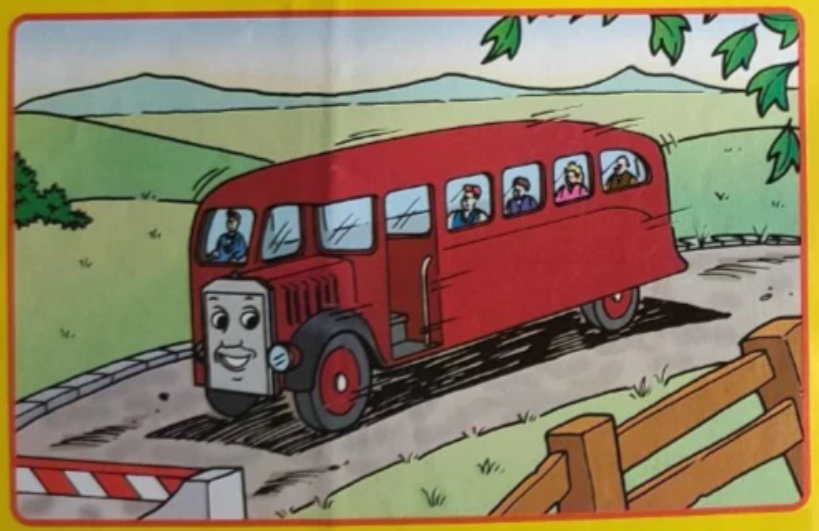


Story puzzle

1



3



The right order is

answer: 3,2,4,1

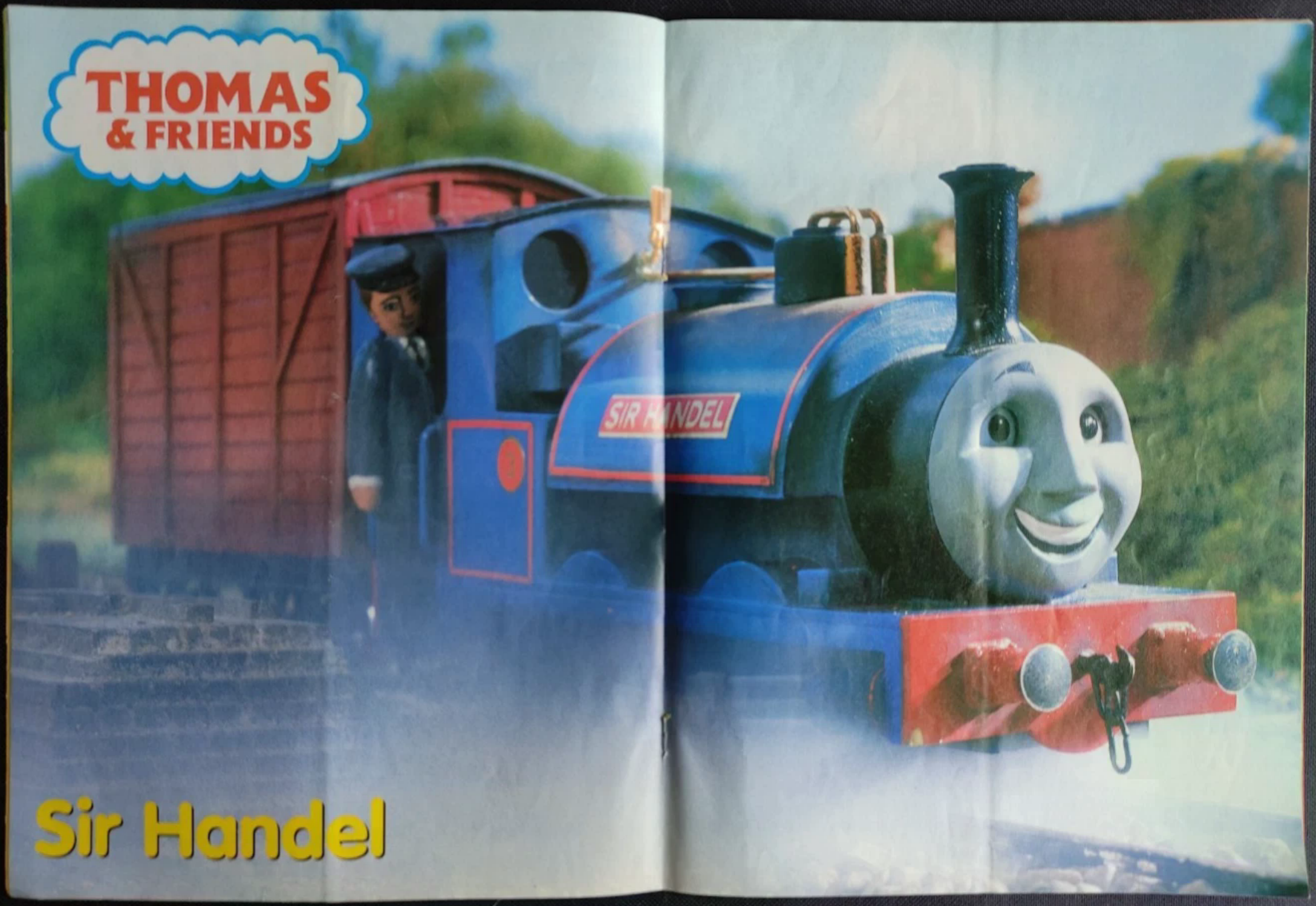
Write the numbers of these pictures below to show which order they should go in. Then tell the story yourself.

2

4

Who had to wait at the level crossing?

answer: Bertie


THOMAS
& FRIENDS
SIR HANDEL
Sir Handel

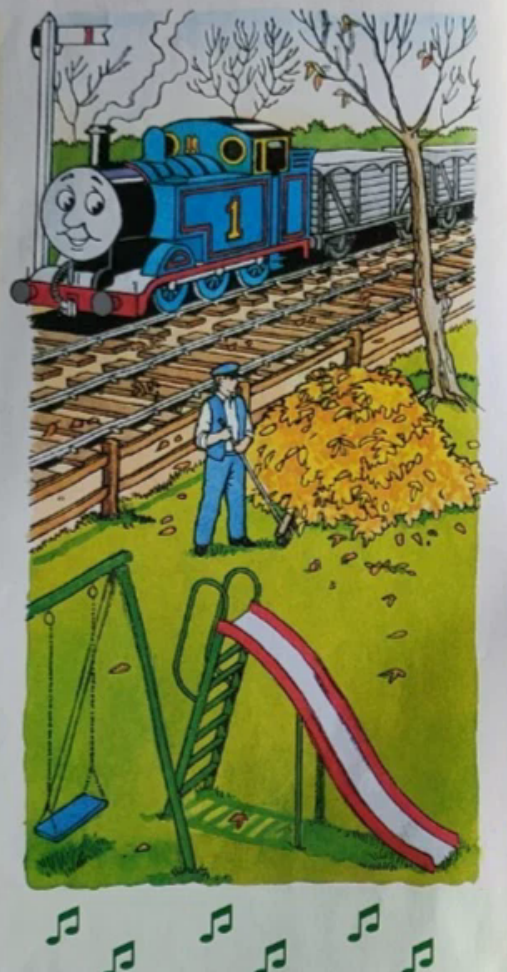
Thomas' rhyme time!

Lots of leaves!

Leaves were falling from the trees,
Floating gently in the breeze.

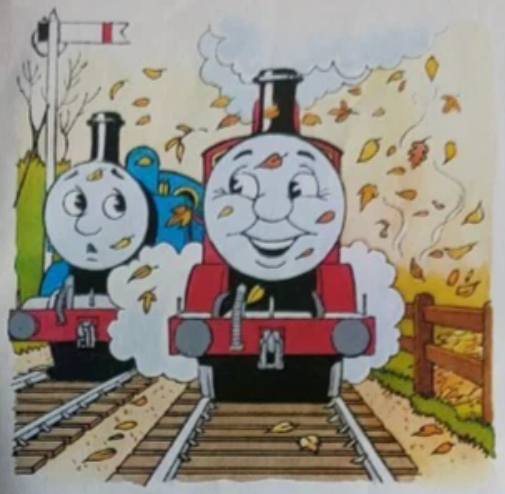
"They always do, this time of year,"
Thought Thomas, "now that
autumn's here!"

By a park, he stopped a while,
Lots of leaves were in a pile.



A keeper waved and took a rest,
He'd swept the park to look its best.
Next moment, on the other track,

Speeding James came racing back.
There was a whooshing rush of air,
James blew the leaves everywhere!



They blew on Thomas, running late
And made him look an awful state!
As Thomas puffed away again,

It suddenly began to rain.
Lots of leaves were wet and sticky,
It made the journey very tricky!

"Leaves on the line!" poor
Thomas pipped,

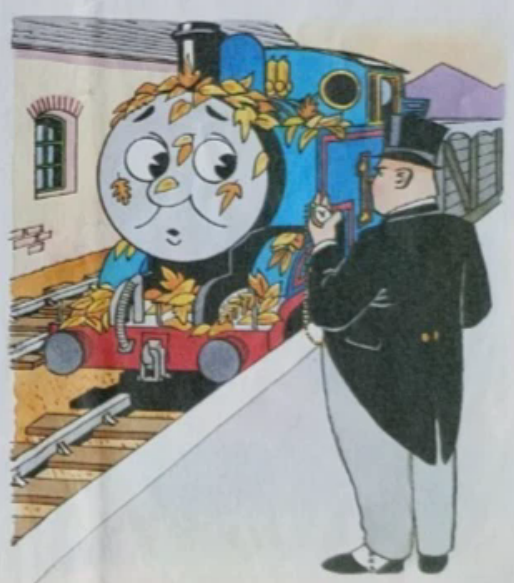
How his big wheels slid and
slipped.

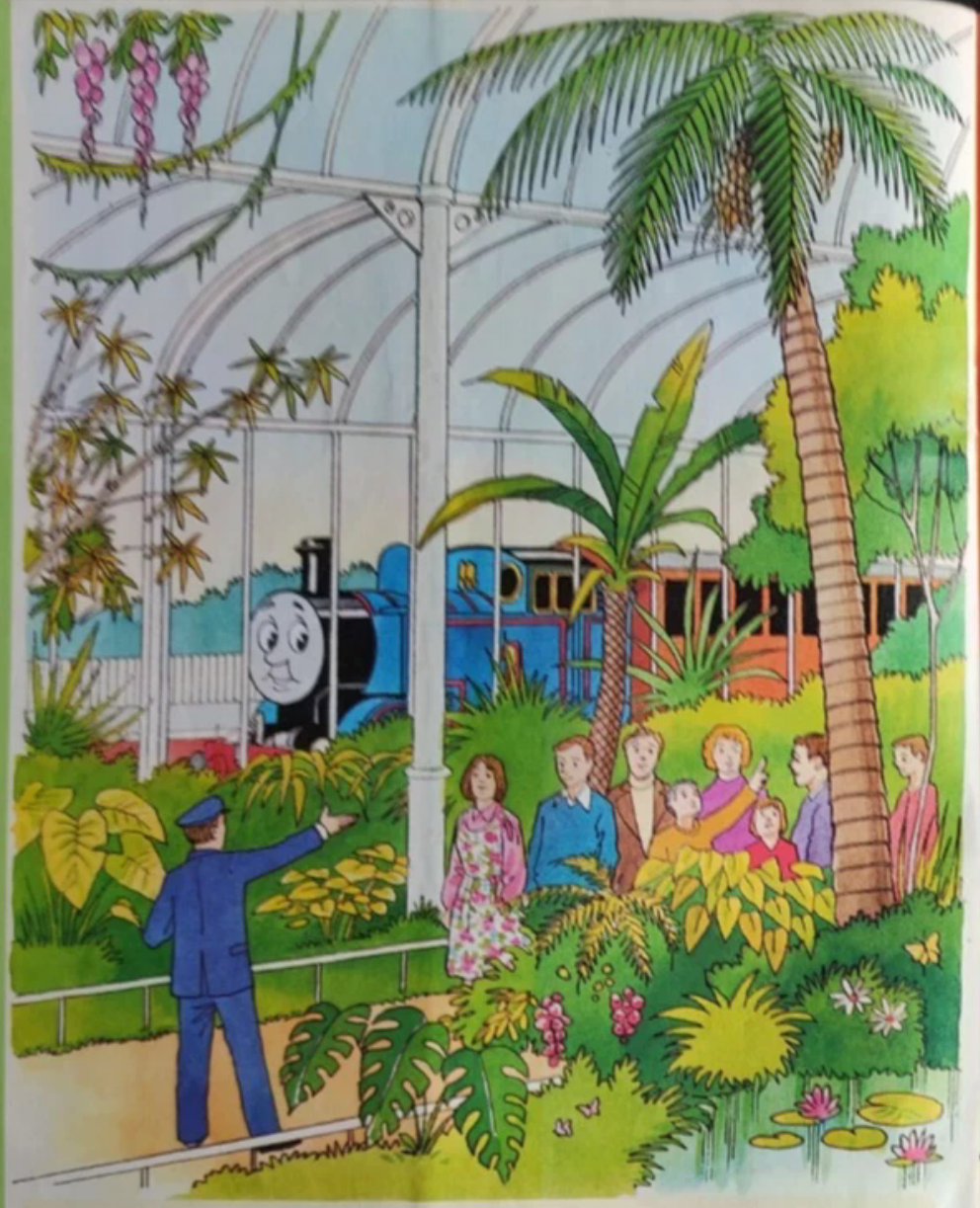
He arrived late, in a mess,

The Fat Controller was not
impressed!

"I've seen enough leaves,
thanks to this,"

He groaned while braking
with a HISS!

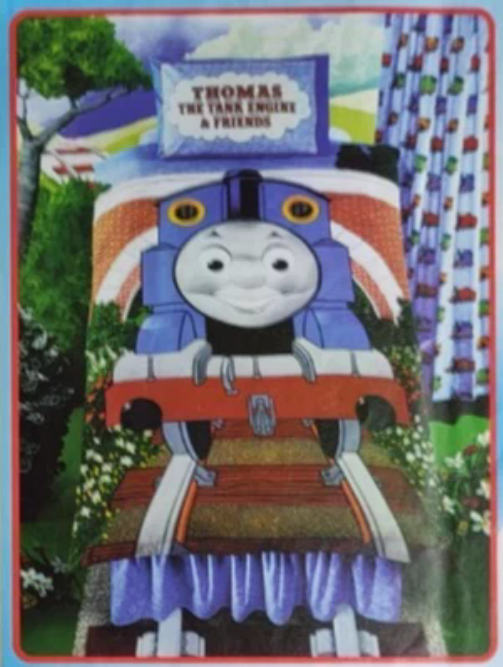




But Thomas took a train, next day,
To a special plant display.
An indoor jungle, lush and green,
Stranger leaves he'd never seen.
Round or spiky, thin or tall,
Now Thomas liked leaves, after all!

The End

6 Thomas Duvet Cover & Pillowcase sets to be won!



Heart Character Toys are giving away six splendid Thomas Duvet Cover and Pillowcase sets to be won by lucky Thomas readers!

For your chance to win just tell us:

What colour is Bertie?

a) blue
b) green
c) red

Write your answer on a postcard along with your name and address.

Send your postcard to:
Thomas #339 Duvet competition,
Heart Character Toys,
37a High Street,
Walsall Wood,
West Midlands,
WS9 9LR

Closing date: 18th October 2000

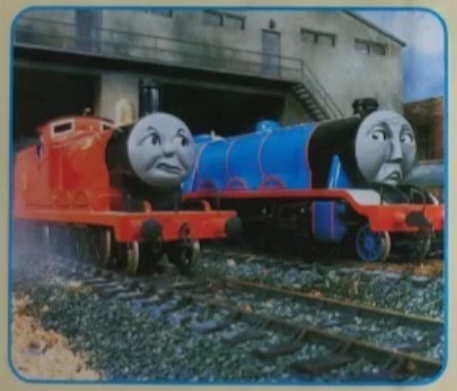
Heart Character Toys stock over 250 Thomas products in their mail order catalogue. For your free copy, call 01543 377182, quoting reference 339 or write to them at the competition address above.

This competition is open to all Thomas readers other than employees of participating companies and their families. We cannot accept responsibility for any entries that are lost in the post. Please obtain permission from a parent or guardian before entering this competition. Entries are limited to one winner per household.

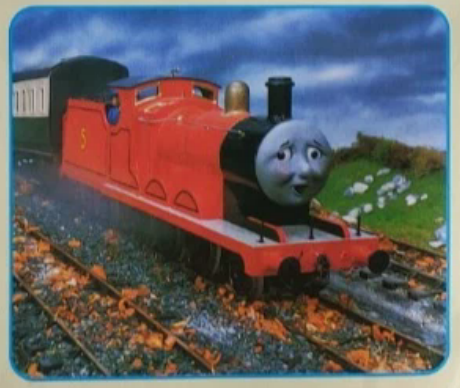
Thomas' tale

Leaves On The Line!

1. One day, some men were cleaning Gordon. "Did you ever see such mud?" one of the men muttered, "You ought to be ashamed, Gordon, giving us extra work!" "You will pull no more coaches until you are a Really Useful Engine," The Fat Controller told him. "Until then, you'll pull trucks!" Gordon was cross!



2. Gordon shunted trucks about the Yard all day. "They tried to push me down the hill earlier," Gordon explained to James. "It's slippery there. You'll need some help."



3. "I don't need any help on hills," James said huffily, and went to take the Express. Usually the wind blew the leaves away, but the rain had made them stick to the track.

4. He started to climb the hill. "I'll do it! I'll do it!" he puffed confidently. But try as he would, his wheels slipped on the leaves and he couldn't pull the train at all. "Help! Help!" whistled James as the heavy coaches pulled him backwards down the hill.

5. But Gordon, who had followed with a goods train, saw what had happened. "I thought you could climb hills," he chuckled. "Never mind, James," he went on kindly, "I'm going to push you." And slowly, they struggled to the top of the hill. "We've done it! We've done it!" They puffed happily. Gordon had been a Really Useful Engine after all!

Win a model of Gordon!

10 lucky readers can win a splendid model of Gordon from the Racing Champions engine range. ERTL

Just tell us:
Who did Gordon help?

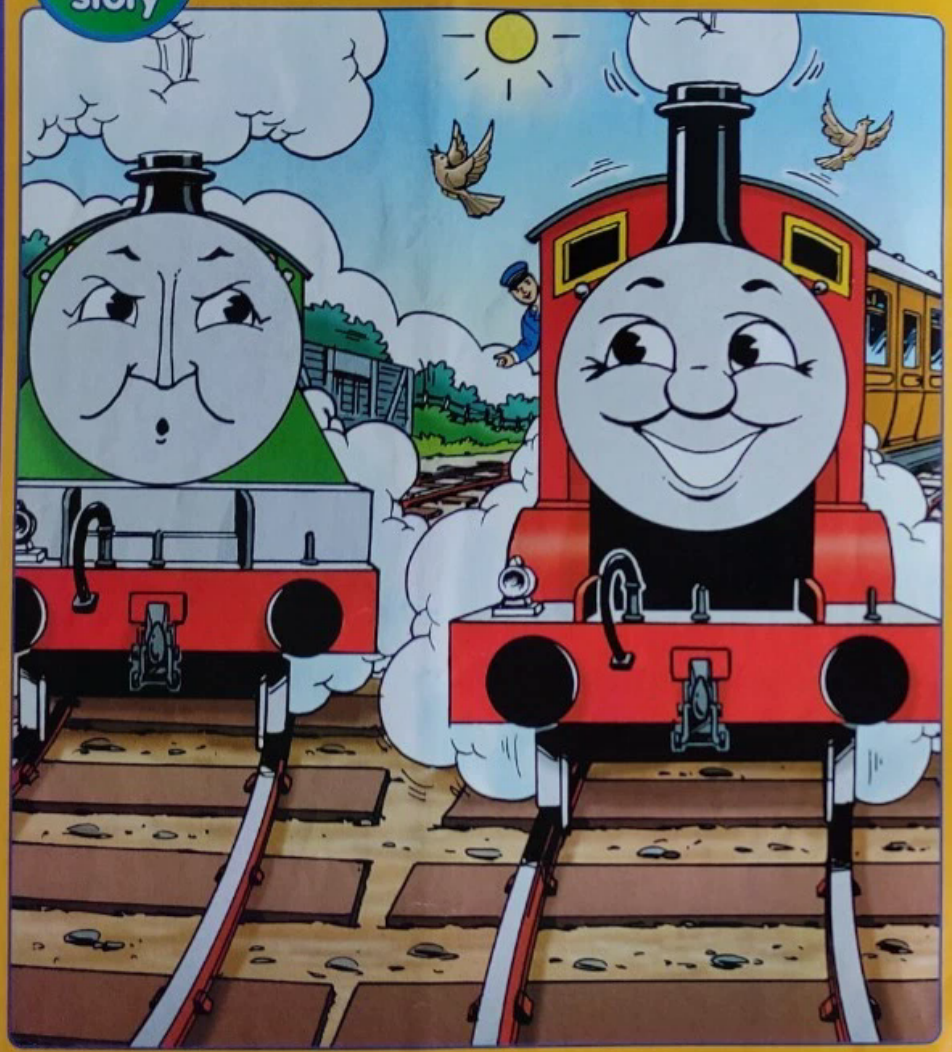
Write your answer on a postcard along with your name and address and send it to: Thomas/339 model competition, Egmont Fleetway Ltd., PO BOX 29087, London, WC1H 9XE.

Closing date: 23rd Oct 2000

This competition is open to all Thomas readers other than employees of participating companies and their families. We cannot accept responsibility for any entries or prizes that are lost in the post. Please obtain permission from a parent or guardian before entering this competition. Entries are limited to one winner per household.

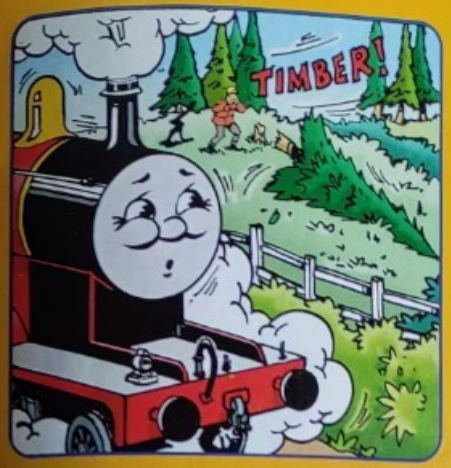
percy's bedtime story

Timber!

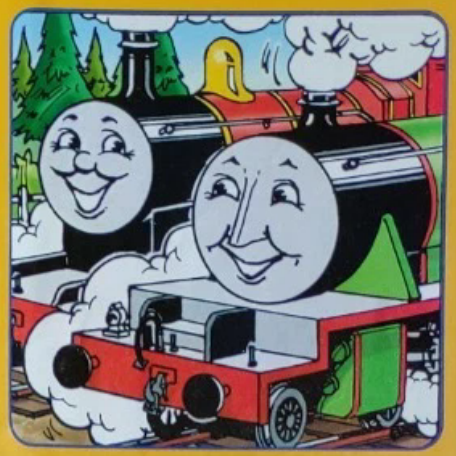


1. One morning, James was buffering up to his carriages when he met Henry with his log car. James scoffed, "The Fat Controller gives you all the rough jobs!"

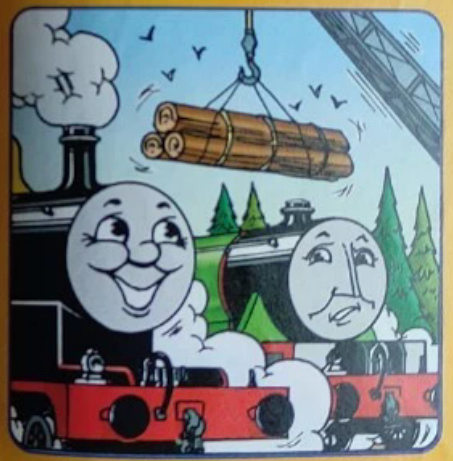
2. Henry replied crossly, "I'm going to work in the forest. It's important work, but you wouldn't understand, James!" James just laughed, "Important, my funnel!"



3. A little later, James was chuffing happily through the forest. Suddenly he heard a loud shout, "TIMBER!" as a huge tree crashed to the ground.

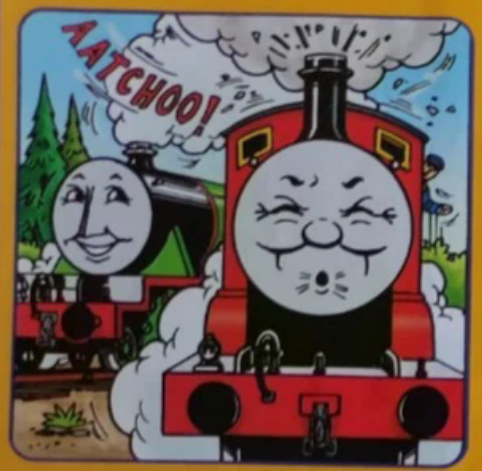


4. Henry was having tree trunks loaded on to his log car, "It's exciting work if you can handle it, James!" he whistled. James' passengers seemed to agree.



5. "It's even rougher work than I thought, Henry, you'll get splinters playing with that wood!" James chuckled. James puffed out of the forest as fast as he could.

6. Later that day, The Fat Controller had orders for James, "The timber yard is extra busy, they need your help!" James groaned, "But the timber yard isn't my scene!"

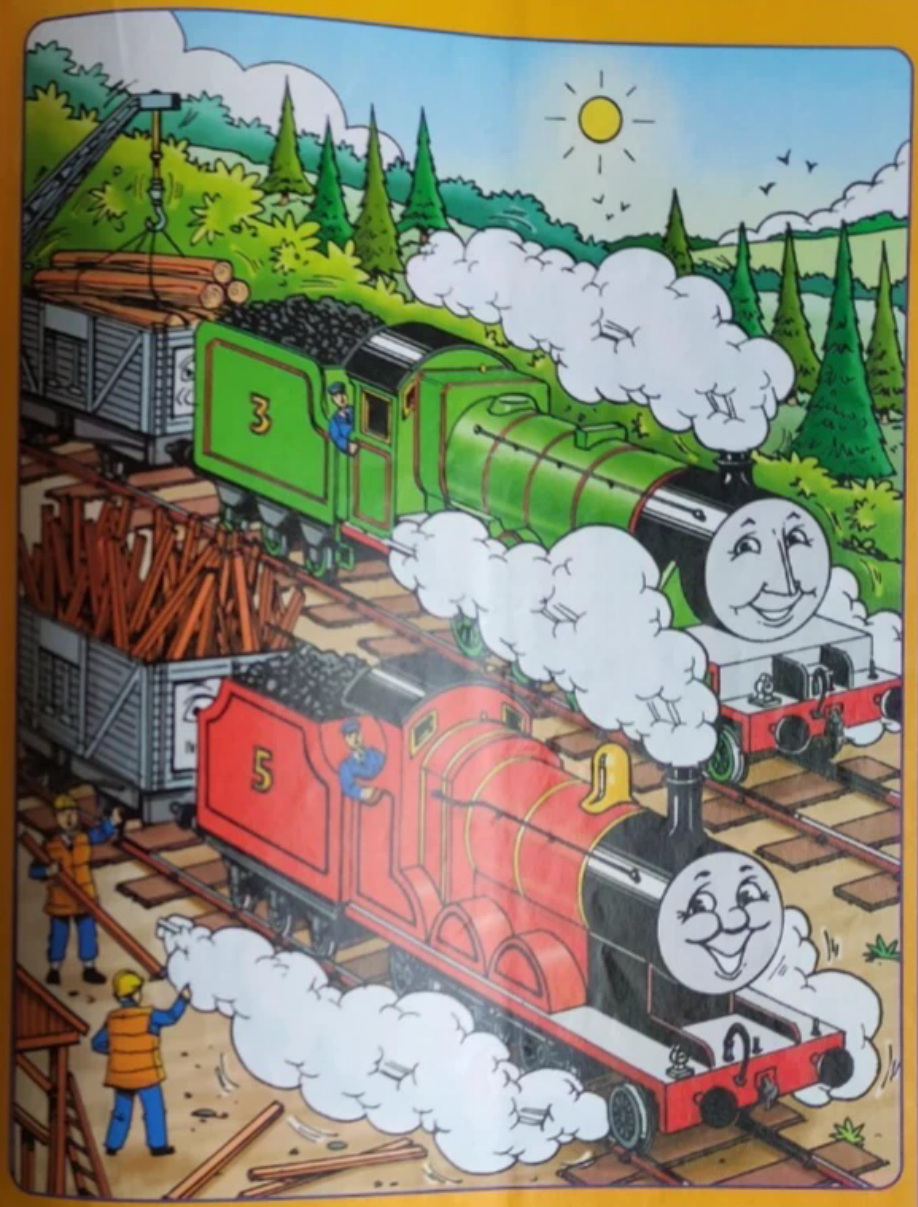


7. As soon as James reached the timber yard he sneezed, "AATCHOO! Some sawdust has gone down my chimney! This is no place for a showpiece engine!"

8. James had some telegraph poles to deliver first. "Thanks, James, these are Really Useful!" called the engineer. Suddenly James felt pleased with himself!

9. Then he delivered a new lock gate. "The canal will soon be working again!" grinned the lock-keeper. "This is a good way to make friends!" smiled James.

10. James had one truckload of wood left. "To the forest, James!" called his driver. James peeped, "Don't those lumberjacks have enough wood already?"



11. The lumberjacks were very pleased to see him. "We're building ourselves a work hut, the timber you have has been cut to size!" explained one of them.

12. James laughed as they unloaded, "Hey, showpiece engine!" called Henry, smiling, "It's Really Useful stuff, but make sure you don't get splinters!" **The End**

Dot to Dot!

Join the dots to see what Bertie is looking at.

Now use your crayons to colour in the picture!

Subscription offer!

Subscribe to Thomas & Friends today! For the special subscription price of £30.00 you will get 26 issues for the price of 22!

offer applies to UK subscribers only

Really Useful Reading with Thomas & friends!

Postage & packing is FREE!

Free gift with every issue!

Brilliant stories & activities!

Delivered to your door!

ORDERS & PAYMENTS TO: EGMONT FLEETWAY SUBSCRIPTIONS, PO BOX 315, Stirlingbourne, Kent, ME9 8DT. Tel: 01795 414 900

Please note that, unless stated otherwise, the standard order period is 12 months and that new subscriptions take approximately 4 weeks to become effective.

Sterling cheques and postal orders should be crossed and made payable to EGMONT FLEETWAY LTD. Those settling by per by credit card or debit card should include their card number and expiry date on the coupon, and, if paying for someone else's subscription should add their own name and address in the separate space provided. Please post to:

Egmont Fleetway Subscriptions, PO Box 315, Stirlingbourne, Kent, ME9 8DT. Tel: 01795 414 900.

Cancelled subscriptions are subject to a surcharge of 75% (twenty-five percent) of the full subscription or £5.00 (whichever is the higher), plus the cost of any issues despatched. Subscriptions cannot be cancelled after they have run for 6 months or more. Refunds can only be made to the person who paid for the subscription.

I wish to order 26 issues of THOMAS AND FRIENDS for the price as follows: UK £30 ❑ Europe £40.00 ❑ Other £50.00 ❑

SUBSCRIBER'S FULL NAME (CAPS) .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

PERSON MAKING PAYMENT (If different from subscriber above) Mr ❑ Mrs ❑ Ms ❑

FULL NAME (CAPS) .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

POSTCODE ..... TEL: ..... D.O.B .....

I am the Parent/Brother/Sis/Aunt/Uncle/Grandparent/Friend of subscriber PLEASE SIGN .....

I enclose a crossed cheque/postal order for £..... made payable to EGMONT FLEETWAY LTD (UK BANK OR EUROCHEQUE ONLY)

Please charge £..... to my VISA/MASTERCARD/EUROCARD/CONNECT/SWITCH

Card Number

Expiry Date ..... Signature .....

Please tick here ❑ if you do not want to receive notice of special offers or new products

CREDIT CARD HOTLINE 01795 414 900 Ref.: TOM

DIRECT Debit

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit

Please use a ball-point pen. Originator's Identification Number 7 6 3 9 3 9

Please fill in the whole form and send it to: Egmont Fleetway Limited Subscriptions, PO Box 315, Stirlingbourne, Kent, ME9 8DT

1. Name and full postal address of your bank or Building Society branch

To The Manager ..... Bank or Building Society

Address ..... Postcode

2. Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

3. Branch Sort Code (from the top right hand corner of your cheque)

4. Bank/Building Society account number

5. Reference number (For Office use only)

6. Instructions to your Bank or Building Society

Please pay Egmont Fleetway Limited Direct Debits from the account detailed on this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Egmont Fleetway Limited and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s) .....

Date .....

Banks and Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit Instructions for some types of accounts. TOM 03180

Convenient & great value for money!

Sodor mail

Please send your letters, pictures and drawings to Sodor Mail, Egmont Fleetway, 25/31 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SU

Thomas Token

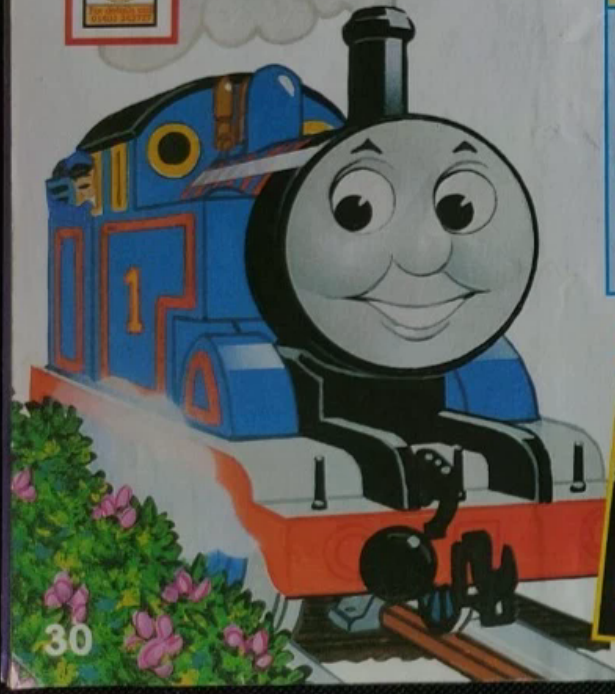
Ask an adult to cut out the token for you!

Star Rhyme

Anthony Huckstepp, aged 3, wrote this rhyme about his favourite engines!

Cheerful Thomas and cheeky James
You are such very special trains
James is red and Thomas is blue
Oh, how I love you!

If we print your Star letter or rhyme, you will receive a £10 voucher to spend on any items from the Official Thomas Catalogue, packed with Thomas goodies! To obtain a free copy, call 01403 242727 quoting reference FL.



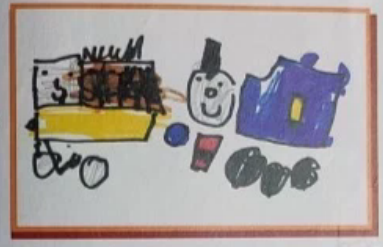
Harry Morris, aged 3.

Adrian & Darren Teale.

This picture of Thomas was drawn by Tom Harvey, aged 3.

A great picture of Henry by Samuel Stiles, aged 5.

Thomas and Skarloey by Phillip Taggart, aged 5.



Anyone who has a drawing printed on this page will win a copy of Thomas' Party Pop-Up book from Egmont Children's Books.

Happy birthday!

To
Henry Clarke, aged 4,
Kevin Curtis, aged 3,
Matthew Baugh, aged 3,
Benjamin Fullbrook, aged 3,
James Gibson, aged 6,
James Edward Torrance, aged 3,
Liam Davies, aged 5,
Samuel Longstaff, aged 4,
Anthony Gray, aged 4,
Ethan Chamberlain, aged 3,
Ben George, aged 4,
Peter Andrews, aged 4,
Charlie Roberts, aged 3,
Jack Iwan Evans, aged 2.

Remember to send in your details 4 months before your birthday to be sure it will be printed on time.

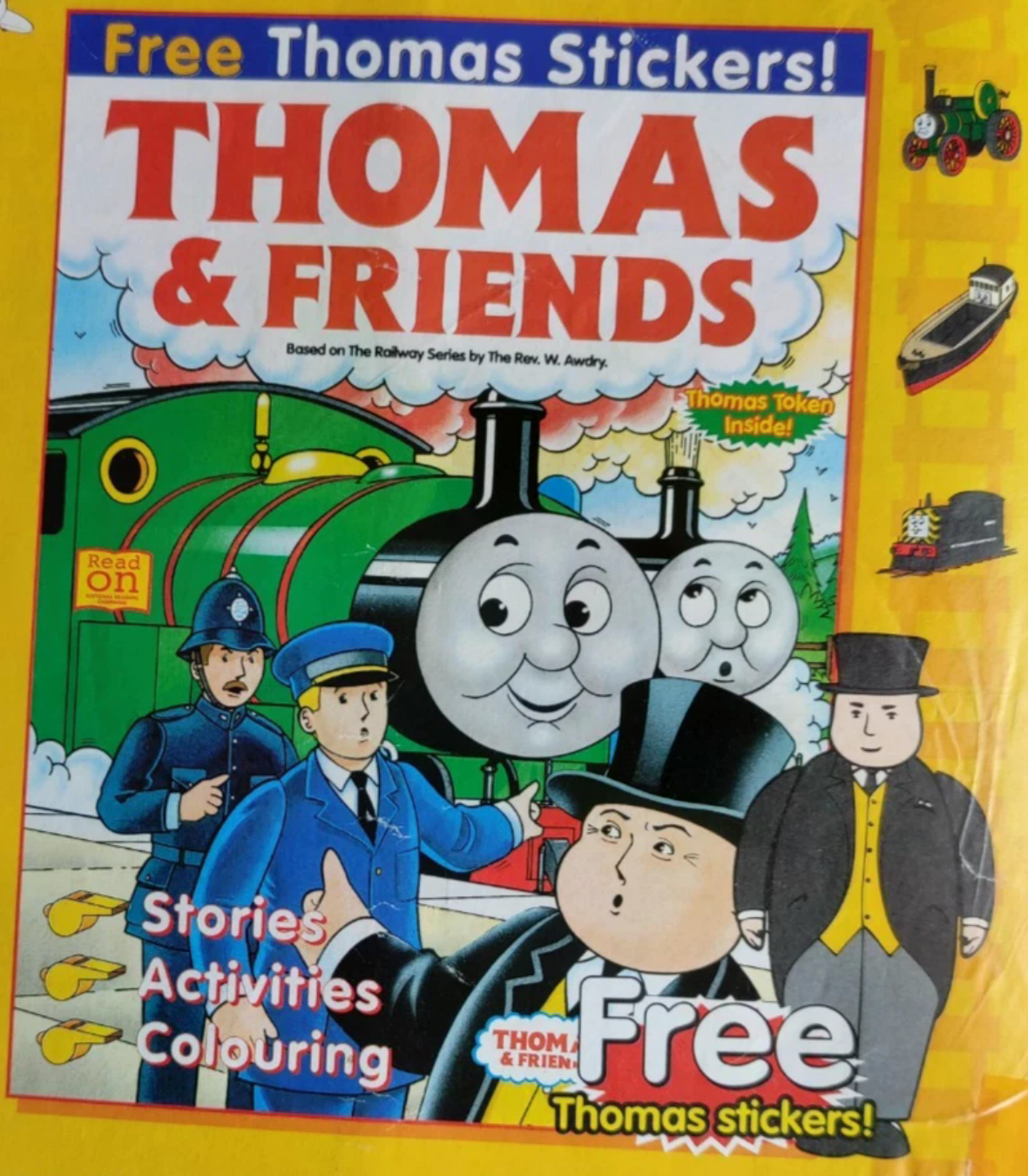
Lewis Moore, aged 3.

Ewan May & Liam James.

Liam Park.

Christopher Bradford, aged 2.

Next issue!



Stories to Read • Rhymes and Songs
Puzzles and Activities • Prizes to win
Plus a Thomas token to collect!

Issue 340 on sale from 11th October 2000!